



GuideLines

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Tēnā koutou katoa

(Greetings, hello to you all)

Flora News

By Warren Brewer

Houpara (*Pseudopanax lessonii*), also known as coastal fivefinger, is one of the two endemic *pseudopanax* on Tiritiri Matangi. It has tiny flowers arranged in umbels. It is naturally restricted to coastal forest and offshore islands in the upper two thirds of North Island. Mostly dioecious, with male and female flowers on separate trees, houpara has compound leaves with three to five leaflets. A distinguishing feature is that each leaflet is sessile (no stalk) sitting directly on the main leaf stalk. Houpara fruit ripens in early winter, providing food for the birds



Houpara female flowers with fruit forming

Houpara male
flowers



Elingamita (*Elingamita johnsonii*). The two trees on Wattle Track flower in summer producing brilliant red fruits. *Elingamita* is endemic to the Three Kings Group, present on West Island, where the steamer *Elingamite* was wrecked in 1902, and on two nearby rocky islets, the Princes. It was discovered there by Magnus Earle Johnson, a highly decorated soldier who took up plant collecting on retirement.



Elingamita
flowering